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FRANK PALLONE, JR.

6TH DISTRICT, NEW JERSEY

**Congress of the United States**

**House of Representatives**

**Washington, DC 20515-3006**

REPLY TO:

WASHINGTON OFFICE:

☐ 237 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-3006  
TELEPHONE: (202) 225-4671

DISTRICT OFFICES:

TOLL-FREE NUMBER:  
(888) 423-1140

☐ 504 BROADWAY  
LONG BRANCH, NJ 07740  
(732) 571-1140

☐ 67/69 CHURCH STREET  
KILMER SQUARE  
NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ 08901  
(732) 249-8892

December 18, 2014

The Honorable Tom Wheeler  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20554

**1308**

Dear Chairman Wheeler:

I am writing in reference to the pending decision to select a Local Number Portability Administrator (LNPA) to begin service on July 1, 2015. I urge you to take all appropriate measures to bring a fair and thorough selection process to a close.

One of the main stated purposes of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 is to "promote competition and reduce regulation in order to secure lower prices...." For more than a decade, the LNPA had not been subject to an open, competitive bidding process. Recently, the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) decided to issue a new Request for Proposal (RFP) to enable multiple vendors to bid in accordance with the 1996 Act.

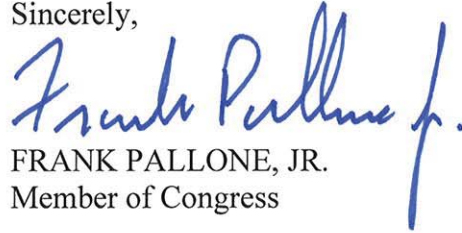
My office has been informed that the result of the competitive process the FCC's numbering advisory committee, the North American Numbering Council (NANC), was a recommendation that Telcordia (dba iConectiv) be designated as the next LNPA by a unanimous vote. As stated on the FCC's website "the NANC advises the Commission and makes recommendations, reached through consensus, that foster efficient and impartial number administration. The NANC is composed of representatives of telecommunications carriers, regulators, cable providers, VoIP providers, industry associations, vendors and consumer advocates."

Furthermore, the FCC has moved forward by soliciting and receiving comments on NANC's recommendation. I am aware that those comments include support for NANC's recommendation from the North American Portability Management, LLC (NAPM). As you know, NAPM was created at FCC's direction "to negotiate and manage the contracts for LNP administration," including "immediate oversight and management" of the LNP administrator(s) in accordance with orders and directions from the FCC."

Finally, it is my understanding that for each day a transition is delayed beyond July 1, 2015 it would cost consumers and industry an additional \$1 million. If accurate, this estimate adds to the compelling case for a timely decision with regard to this matter.

Thank you in advance for your serious consideration of my views. I understand that there are numerous, important considerations that you must weigh in determining which entity to designate as the number portability administrator, including cost, reliability, security, competition and the impact on consumers. I look forward to hearing from you on this matter and hope for swift resolution that will benefit consumers.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Frank Pallone Jr.", with a stylized flourish at the end.

FRANK PALLONE, JR.  
Member of Congress



OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

January 20, 2015

The Honorable Frank Pallone, Jr.  
U.S. House of Representatives  
237 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Pallone:

Thank you for your letter sharing your concerns about the vendor selection for the Local Number Portability Administrator (LNPA). Your views are very important, and I am pleased that you support the Commission's decision to proceed through a competitive selection process, working with the North American Numbering Council and North American Portability Management, LLC. Your letter will be included in the record of the proceeding and considered as part of the Commission's review.

As you note, the LNPA selection is important. I am committed to a competitive, fair, and transparent process. The Commission is currently reviewing the record of the proceeding, including the recommendation from the North American Numbering Council on the LNPA selection and its assessment of the selection process, and we are taking into account the factors you point out in your letter. I also agree with you about the importance of a timely decision. Once the Commission is finished with a thorough review of the record, we will act as quickly as we can.

I appreciate your interest in this matter. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Tom Wheeler", is positioned above the printed name.

Tom Wheeler